

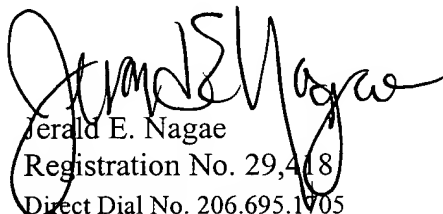
REMARKS

In response to the Office Action of April 22, 2004, Claims 1-4, 16, 18-19, 24-29, 41, and 43-44 are being canceled. Claims 5, 7, 17, 20, 30, 42, and 45 have been rewritten in independent form to overcome the objection that these claims are dependent upon a rejected base claim. As such, Claims 5-15, 17, 20-23, 30-40, 42, and 45-48 should now be found allowable.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning the foregoing, she is requested to telephone the undersigned at 206-695-1705.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR
JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}


Gerald E. Nagae
Registration No. 29,418
Direct Dial No. 206.695.1705

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date:

Aug. 11, 2004

Hilda J. Delgrosso

JEN:gjm